

Serial No. 09/402,121
Attorney Docket (2)1625/00023

one or more platform structures projecting from the bottom surface of the surface structure, the platform structures projecting a distance greater than a wall thickness of the surface structure, and wherein

each joint arrangement comprises:

a joint piece comprising a frame part defining one or more corners; and
one or more projections located at the corners, wherein the recesses in the surface structure generally correspond in shape to the projections of the joint piece, wherein

one or more recesses are defined between adjacent platform structures and the frame part of the joint arrangement has an open center, and at least a portion of the frame part fits within the recesses between adjacent platform structures, the height of the recesses corresponding essentially to a thickness of the frame part.

15. The combination of claim 14, wherein the one or more platform structures comprise one or more square shaped platforms on the bottom surfaces of the surface structures, and wherein the platforms embed into the open centers of the frame parts.

16. The combination of claim 14, wherein the recesses are arranged at each corner of the surface structures.

17. The combination of claim 14 wherein the surface structures comprise coupling means having male and female couplers located at the outer edges of the surface structures, the male couplers being arranged at opposite edges of the surface structures, and the female couplers being arranged at opposite outer edges of the surface structures.

18. The combination of claim 17, wherein the male couplers are projections located at lower edges of longitudinal outer edges of the surface structures, and the corresponding

209939v1(CB)

Serial No. 09/402,121
Attorney Docket (2)1625/00023

female couplers are recesses in lower edges of crosswise outer edges.

19. The combination of claim 17, wherein the male and female couplers comprise an auxiliary support/sealing assembly having counterpart surfaces located at upper edges of the outer surfaces of the surface structures at an angle (α), which deviates from vertical.

20. The combination of claim 14, wherein the thermal insulation comprises plastic, and wherein the frame parts have a square shape.

209939v1(CB)